

WHEN NO OTHER RESOURCE CAN HELP

EMERGENCY CAREGIVER RESPITE

AVAILABLE TO ALL 24/7 IDAHO CAREGIVERS

A respite care program designed to assist 24/7 family caregivers with funding for respite care during an emergency (ECR) is now available through the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (IFFCMH). Through this project, any caregivers providing 24/7 care to any person(s) of any age is eligible to apply. For more information, contact IFFCMH at 208-433-8845.

Respite care is defined as: **An intermittent period of relief** for the primary caregiver in order that s/he may take a break **from the continual responsibilities** of care giving. ECR is a short-term period of relief funded **by the project** when there is trauma or increased family stress or unforeseen family emergency or crisis.

An emergency is an urgent and unforeseen event such as a funeral, need for medical attention or severe emotional distress, which results in the immediate and unavoidable absence of the primary caregiver or **back up** caregiver from the home where care is given.

To obtain ECR funds, **Caregivers** in an emergency situation, and/or agency staff assisting a caregiver, may apply **for emergency respite care funds** at www.idahofederation.org. Click on "Respite Care" and then **"Emergency Caregiver Respite"** to find the on-line application form, and project guidelines. **Caregivers or agency staff** can also call, mail or fax the IFFCMH to initiate the application process.

Caregivers are responsible for locating and contracting with their choice of respite care provider who can be a family member, trusted friend or an agency providing temporary residential care. IFFCMH maintains a directory of respite care providers who have passed a background check and a basic training program. IFFCMH cannot recommend a specific provider but will convey names and contact information from the directory upon request.

For Caregivers meeting the "emergency" eligibility requirements, the next step is completing the application form. Once the application is completed and approved, and care successfully provided, payment is made directly to the individual respite care provider, or agency providing care at a care facility. Completed evaluations and signed invoices returned to IFFCMH are required before payment can be made.

ECR is a collaborative project of IFFCMH, the Commission on Aging and the ID Caregivers Alliance. More detailed information regarding eligibility, emergency definition/criteria, additional resources and application guidelines can be found at: www.idahofederation.org